

Listing of the claims:

1. **(Currently amended)** A method for the determination of water comprising determining the water content in a sample using the Karl Fischer oven technique with a water standard comprising~~Use of a mixture consisting of at least one stable water-containing compound and at least one stable water-free compound as water standard for the determination of water.~~
2. **(Cancelled)**
3. **(Cancelled)**
4. **(Currently amended)** Standard A method for the determination of water in a sample consisting of comprising:  
determining the water content of said sample with the Karl Fisher oven technique using a water standard comprising a mixture of at least one stable water-containing compound and at least one inorganic stable water-free compound where the constituents water-containing and water free compounds have particle sizes of less than 300 pm.
5. **(Currently amended)** Standard A method according to Claim 4, wherein said water standard has~~having~~ a water content of between 0.005 and 10% by weight.
6. **(Currently amended)** Process A process for the preparation of a water standard, comprising ~~the following steps:~~
  - a)~~provision of providing~~ at least one stable water-containing compound and at least one inorganic stable water-free compound;
  - b) ~~reduction of~~ reducing the particle size of the ~~constituents mentioned compounds~~ in a) to less than 300 pm;
  - c) ~~calculation of~~ calculating the proportions of the stable water-containing compound(s) and of the stable water-free compound(s) in order that the water content desired for the standard arises in the mixture;

d) mixing of the ~~constituents~~ compounds obtained from step b) in accordance with the proportions calculated in step c),  
where the sequence of steps b) and c) can be exchanged.

7. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said mixture is a free flowing powder.
8. (New) A method according to claim 5, wherein said water-containing compound is sodium tungstate dihydrate.
9. (New) A method according to claim 5, wherein said water-containing compound is sodium molybdate dihydrate.
10. (New) A method according to claim 4, wherein said water-free compound is potassium sulfate.
11. (New) A method according to claim 4, wherein said water-free compound is barium sulfate, titanium dioxide (rutile) or calcium phosphate.
12. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the water-free compound and the water-containing compound have melting points  $> 400^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
13. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the determination of water is conducted at a temperature range between 140 and  $300^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
14. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said water-free compound is an inorganic compound.
15. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said standard has a water content of between 0.005 and 10% by weight.
16. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said standard comprises a mixture of

potassium sulfate and sodium tungstate dihydrate.

17. (New) A method according to claim 4, wherein said water-containing and water-free compounds have particle sizes of less than 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

18. (New) A method according to claim 17, wherein said water-containing and water-free compounds have particle sizes of less than 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

19. (New) A method according to Claim 5, wherein said standard has a water content of between 0.1 and 10% by weight.